CLAIMS

1 1.   A method for providing digital video images and still images comprising the steps

2 of:

3   enabling frames of image data to be provided to a user for rendering as video

4 images, the video images being configured for providing at a first resolution;

5   receiving a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of image

6 data; and

7   enabling image data corresponding to the requested one of the frames to be

8 provided to the user for rendering as a still image, the still image being configured for

9 providing at a second resolution, the second resolution being higher than the first

10 resolution.

1 2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling frames of image data to be

2 provided to a user for rendering as video images comprises the step of:

3   providing frames of image data, at least some of the image data being configured

4 with the second resolution.

1 3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling frames of image data to be

2 provided to a user for rendering as video images comprises:

3   enabling the frames of image data to be provided to the user at a resolution of 640

4 pixels by 480 pixels.

1 4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling image data corresponding to

2 the requested one of the frames to be provided to the user for rendering as a still image

3 comprises:

4   enabling image data corresponding to the requested one of the frames to be

5 provided to the user at a resolution of 1024 pixels by 768 pixels.

1 5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a request for image data

2 corresponding to one of the frames of image data comprises the step of:

3   receiving a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of image

4 data configured at the second resolution.

1 6.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of providing frames of image data

2 comprises the step of:

3   providing sequential frames of the image data such that the image data configured

4 with the second resolution is intermittently disposed among the frames of image data.

1 7.   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of providing frames of image data

2 comprises the step of:

3   compressing the at least some of the image data configured with the second

4 resolution such that the frames provided to the user for rendering as video images are

5 configured with the first resolution.

1 8.   The method of claim 6, wherein the step of receiving a request for image data

2 corresponding to one of the frames of image data comprises the step of:

3   receiving a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of image

4 data configured at the first resolution; and

5   wherein the step of enabling image data corresponding to the requested one of the

6 frames to be provided to the user for rendering as a still image comprises the step of:

7   enabling a frame of second resolution image data most closely

8   corresponding to the requested frame of image data to be provided to the user for

9   rendering as a still image.

1 9.   The method of claim 6, wherein the step of receiving a request for image data

2 corresponding to one of the frames of image data comprises the step of:

3   receiving a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of image

4 data configured at the first resolution; and

5   wherein the step of enabling image data corresponding to the requested one of the

6 frames to be provided to the user for rendering as a still image comprises the step of:

7   enabling modification of image data such that image data to be provided to

8   the user for rendering as a still image is provided at a resolution higher than the

9   first resolution.

1   10.   The method of claim 9, wherein the step of enabling modification of image data

2   comprises the step of:

3   enabling modification of the two frames of second resolution image data most

4   closely corresponding to the requested frame of image data.

1   11.   The method of claim 9, wherein the step of enabling modification of image data

2   comprises the step of:

3   enabling modification of at least the one frame of second resolution image data

4   most closely corresponding to the requested frame of image data.

1   12.   An imaging system comprising:

2   a video/still imaging system configured to provide frames of image data to a user

3   for rendering as video images, the video images being configured with a first resolution;

4   said video/still imaging system being further configured to receive a request for

5   image data corresponding to one of the frames of image data such that, in response

6   thereto, said video/still imaging system provides image data corresponding to the

7   requested one of the frames to the user for rendering as a still image, the still image being

8   configured with a second resolution, the second resolution being higher than the first

9   resolution.

1   13.   The imaging system of claim 12, wherein said video/still imaging system is

2   further configured to compress image data configured with the second resolution such

3   that image data provided to the user for rendering as video images is configured with the

4   first resolution.

1   14.   The imaging system of claim 12, further comprising:

2   means for receiving a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of

3   image data.

1   15.   The imaging system of claim 12, further comprising:

2   means for storing frames of image data.

1   16.   An imaging system comprising:

2   an image data storage medium having frames of image data stored thereon, said

3   frames being configured to be provided to a user for rendering as video images, the video

4   images being configured for providing at a first resolution;

5   at least some of said frames being configured to be provided to the user for

6   rendering as a still image, the still image being configured for providing at a second

7   resolution, the second resolution being higher than the first resolution.

1   17.   The imaging system of claim 16, wherein only some of said frames of image data

2   are provided at the second resolution.

1   18.   A computer readable medium having a computer program for providing digital

2   video images and still images, said computer readable medium comprising:

3   logic configured to enable frames of image data to be provided to a user for

4   rendering as video images, the video images being configured for providing at a first

5   resolution;

6   logic configured to receive a request for image data corresponding to one of the

7   frames of image data; and

8   logic configured to enable image data corresponding to the requested one of the

9   frames to be provided to the user for rendering as a still image, the still image being

10   configured for providing at a second resolution, the second resolution being higher than

11   the first resolution.

1   19.   The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein the logic configured to

2   enable frames of image data to be provided to a user for rendering as video images

3   comprises:

4   logic configured to compress the at least some of the image data configured with

5   the second resolution such that the frames provided to the user for rendering as video

6   images are configured with the first resolution.

1   20.   The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein the logic configured to

2   receive a request for image data corresponding to one of the frames of image data

3   comprises:

4   logic configured to receive a request for image data corresponding to one of the

5   frames of image data configured at the first resolution; and

6   wherein the logic configured to enable image data corresponding to the requested

7   one of the frames to be provided to the user for rendering as a still image comprises:

8   logic configured to enable the frame of second resolution image data most

9   closely corresponding to the requested frame of image data to be provided to the

10   user for rendering as a still image.